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California Polytechnic State University

Sept. 18, 2002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cirque Eloize Springs into San Luis Obispo Oct. 8

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Spell-binding, animal-free circus performances will fill the Christopher Cohan Center stage when the renowned Cirque Eloize comes to town on Tuesday, October 8, 2002 at 7 p.m.

In their largest production to date, Cirque Eloize combines dramatic theatrical lighting, live music, and charming story lines about Gypsy life in a spectacle entitled "Nomade." Cal Poly Arts presents the festive celebration of song, dance, and acrobatics -- an adventure into the world of carnival-like characters and virtuoso circus acts suitable for all ages.

In 1993, seven graduates of Montreal's National Circus School created their own European-style circus. The performers named their company "Eloize" (pronounced "el-was"), an island term for the bright flashes of heat lightning seen on the horizon on hot days.

By 1995, Cirque Éloize had captivated American audiences and capped a 125-show U.S. tour with an opening engagement at the recently restored New Victory Theater on Broadway. The troupe's achievements led to shows across Quebec and Canada and in France, Ireland, and Asia.

Since its inception, Cirque Éloize has given more than 1000 performances in over 200 cities around the world. Having attained considerable international success, Éloize continues to pursue its mission of promoting the circus arts in Québec and abroad.

Tickets for the performance range from \$32 - \$44, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

This performance is sponsored by KSBY6, Foundation for the Performing

Arts Center, and Patricia McNamara in loving memory of Francis McNamara.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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